

Information Technology Resource Management Council

(ITRMC)

Meeting Minutes

(Approved by Council)

June 21, 2000

8:30 to 11:30 a.m., East Conference Room, Joe R. Williams Building
700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

The June 21, 2000 meeting of the Information Technology Resource Management Council (ITRMC) was held in the East Conference Room of the Joe R. Williams Building, 700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Pam Ahrens, Council Chairman, who welcomed members and guests present. She welcomed **Mary Elizabeth Jones**, Rural Representative, replacing Cindy Siddoway. Ahrens also announced that **Roger Parks**, will be replacing Raymond Sasso as ITRMC Private Industry Representative.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designates Present:

Ms. Pam Ahrens, Chairman
Sen. Hal Bunderson, Idaho Senate
Mr. J.D. Williams, Elected Officer
Rep. Bert Marley, Idaho House
Mr. Ken Harward, Local Gov't. Representative
Mr. John Peay, Judicial Representative
Mr. Eric Beck, Agency IS Representative
Ms. Mary Elizabeth Jones, Rural Representative
Dr. Gregory Fitch, State Board of Education
*Rich Mincer, Department of Education
*Mr. Keith Bumsted, Idaho Transportation Dept
*Mr. David Humphrey, Dept. of Health & Welfare
*Dave Rich, Dept. of Law Enforcement
*Nancy Szofran, State Board of Education

*Designate

Absent Members:

Mr. Karl Kurtz, Agency Executive Officer
Mr. Dwight Bower, Agency Executive Officer
Col. Ed Strickfaden, Public Safety Official
Dr. Marilyn Howard, Supt. of Public Instruction
Mr. Roger Parks, Private Industry Representative
Sen. Clint Stennett, Idaho Senate
Rep. Randy Hansen, Idaho House

Others Present:

Mr. Mark Little, DOP
Mr. Tony Morse, IDWR
Mr. Joe Roche, DITCS
Mr. John Olsen, DITCS
Mr. David Rich, ISP
Mr. Steve Fowers, SOS
Mr. Jordan Heller, GOV
Mr. Angela Babcock, SCO
Mr. Mara Watson, DFM
Mr. Connie Spofford, IIC
Mr. Rich Mincer, ISDE
Mr. David Cooper, IDVR
Mr. James M. Bridger, The Network Group

Ms. Merideth Hackney, SCO
Mr. Scott Somerhalder, IIC
Mr. Laird Justin, SCO
Mr. Byron Keely, LHTAC
Mr. Rob Spofford, IDWR
Mr. Jan Cox, DOP
Mr. Rick Gerrard, U.S. West
Mr. Brad Alvero, IDOC
Mr. Miles Browne, Project Team
Ms. Liza Fox, Project Team
Mr. Jeff Rompala, Project Team
Ms. Karen Bresnahan, Project Team

MOTION TO APPROVE MAY 3, 2000 MINUTES

Eric Beck moved and Gregory Fitch seconded a motion to approve the May 3, 2000 Minutes, and the motion passed unanimously.

REDISTRICTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Ahrens invited **Ross Borden**, Legislative Services Office, to address the Council on the redistricting process. He introduced his assistant, Susan Bennion, LSO, as the lead staff person on the project. For the first time in Idaho history, information technology tools will be utilized for redistricting, through the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology. Digital statewide maps and data will be used in a collaborative effort between government entities. The new redistricting will be an **improved, more accurate and cost efficient effort**, said Borden.

Redistricting is required by law and is needed due to population changes that have occurred in the last decade, said Borden. He clarified the difference between reapportionment and redistricting.

Reapportionment is a process completed by Congress, based on population changes and redistricting is a state government process to assure that state representatives remain proportionate to the population.

During the 1980's, redistricting was done by a judge following a special legislative session. In the 1990's, it was accomplished by a legislative committee, and in 2001, the process will be completed by a new bi-partisan **Citizen's Redistricting Commission**. The structure of the Commission will be as follows:

- Composed of six members, 3 republicans, 3 democrats
- No citizens who have held an elected office can participate
- Commissioners cannot run for political office for five years after serving
- The Commission will have 90 days to draw up the plans, beginning on June 1, 2001
- Approval of plans will require a two-thirds majority vote

The Commission will utilize the Idaho State House during the summer months for its meeting facilities, and will be assisted with legal, technical and administrative support.

Borden reported that Idaho population is estimated to be 1,347,000, which amounts to a **34% increase** during the last decade, and the Census Bureau is projecting our state will add another 400,000 people over the next ten years. It is estimated that Idaho is over 96% white, .6% black, 1.6% American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, and 1.3% Asian. In the ethnic category, the Hispanic population has nearly doubled, however the amount is just 7.1% of the total population. Current Legislative composition is approximately 85% republican.

The goal of the redistricting plan is make census data available to the public, said Borden. Three methods will be used to provide public access to the process: 1) statewide hearings, 2) census data availability, and 3) redistricting pc's in libraries. Special **“turn-key” redistricting PC’s will be placed in ten libraries across the state**. Citizens will be able to draw and submit plans to the Redistricting Commission. The state’s higher education depository libraries will be used to make the base data available to the public. The libraries are very interested in the plan because they will receive GIS training and will be allowed to retain the PC’s after the redistricting process is complete, Borden said.

DISCUSSION

Senator Bunderson asked how soon the new census data will be made available, and Borden said he does not expect it to be released before March of 2001. Bunderson inquired if there are standards for redistricting and Borden explained the process is regulated by legal guidelines. **Gregory Fitch** asked if Borden has considered using Idaho Public Television for providing some type of public access to the process and Borden confirmed that he has been communicating on the issue with Peter Morrill, Manager of IPTV. **Ahrens** said she would like to know how the GIS data will be used once the redistricting is complete, and Borden said the data will be made available for state agency use. **Liza Fox**, Statewide GIS Coordinator, commented that census data will be a valuable tool for the Department of Health and Welfare and other state agencies, as well as local government.

PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

An update of activities by the Public Safety Emergency Communications Committee was provided by **Joe Roche**, Administrator of DITCS (Division of Information Technology and Communication Services). Roche outlined for the Council several highlights from an April 26, 2000 meeting of the PSECC.

Construction is underway on the new **Meridian E-911 Dispatch Center**, with completion estimated by December, 2000. The Dispatch Center will allow the state to dispatch emergency vehicles from one location, coordinating efforts between state agencies, state police and emergency medical personnel.

On the **Enhanced 911** issue, Roche explained that Sheriff Vaughn Killeen has been working with the Committee to introduce draft legislation for the development of funding and support for 911 centers and wireless carriers. Roche reported that Killen was unsuccessful in moving forward with the legislation due to delays resulting from an apparent lack of organization among wireless vendors.

The PSECC is currently involved in preliminary planning for a **2001 Symposium on a Digital Trunk Radio System**. A motion was approved on April 26, 2000 to hold the Symposium. Funding will be provided by the **PSWN** (Public Safety Wireless Network), a federal government organization which has held similar meetings in other states. Purpose of the meetings is to discuss solutions for inter-operability issues among city, county, state and federal entities.

Progress is being made on the state's **Microwave Modernization Project**. Public Television reported to the PSECC in April that testing has been successful on new equipment installed between Boise and Moscow for the *Northern Upgrade*. On the *Eastern Build-out*, Roche explained that equipment has been purchased and is being installed for the migration from the old analog system to the new digital system over the next several months. The state is negotiating with the private sector on a no-cost contribution to that effort, he added.

Roche also reported that ITRMC Project Team Manager Miles Browne had addressed the PSECC on April 26, 2000 on the **IDANET Telecommunications Initiative**. For the benefit of new Council members, Roche explained that the IDANET Initiative is a plan to leverage the states buying power for increased bandwidth services for the same amount of money currently being spent by agencies. IDANET will provide high speed Internet access to stimulate economic and educational development statewide. Roche explained that an **April pre-bid meeting** was held and responses to vendor questions are due the end of June, 2000. Bids on the IDANET request for proposal are due by the end of **July, 2000**, but could be delayed until August, said Roche. A 30-day evaluation period will follow the bidding process, with early implementation estimated to begin in **September or October, 2000**.

Ahrens thanked Roche for the update and called for questions. Bunderson brought up the issue of multiple responses to emergency calls. He described the current process as redundant. Roche said it is his understanding that calls are responded to according to pre-determined jurisdictional boundaries. Ahrens said the question is a policy decision, while ITRMC is focused on providing the infrastructure for a more functional statewide system. **Dave Rich**, Public Safety Designate, explained that the PSECC is putting together a system to facilitate interoperability of statewide entities, so that one radio system will allow smooth communications between police, fire, and ambulance personnel. The state needs a Digital Trunk Radio System for long-term communications, Rich emphasized.

IT TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Chairman Ahrens commented that workforce development has become a number-one national issue. She invited **Cliff Green**, Manager of the **Information Technology Training Program (ITTP)** to report on ITTP progress. The training program has been in operation two years and is a cooperative effort of the ITRMC Project Team, the Division of Professional Technical Education and the Department of Labor. Green outlined the three goals of the program as retention, retraining, and retooling of state IT professionals. **Green listed two major changes in the operation of ITTP:**

- Discontinued co-opting open enrollment desktop application course registrations
- Continued co-opting desktop classes if the class is customized for a specific agency or agencies and the class has an enrollment of 6 or more people.

During the year 2000, enrollment in ITTP totaled 2,300, with 437 seats, serving approximately 9,000 state employees. Of 8,986 state employees served, 7,752 utilized desktop training and 1,234

enrolled in technical training. The combined enrollment count is **significantly less** in the year 2000 than it was during 1999. Green attributed the high enrollment during 1999 to the gearing up process for Y2K. Over the past two years, the program has experienced a **decrease from 20 to 10 percent** in cooperatives (money subsidized by ITTP with the agencies), said Green.

In order to defray the impact of the reduction in cooperatives, a partnership has been created with the ITRMC Project Team and **Learn2.com** (an on-line training provider) for the development of new on-line training, **ITTP On-Line**, explained Green. The new training option has multiple benefits, including the ability of employees to learn anywhere, anytime at their own pace, with potentially increased learning retention rates. ITTP On-Line offers pre and post testing on applications, and reduces agency training costs. Courses are also available on CD or Video Cassette. Last October, all state agencies were offered a free year-long subscription to ITTP On-Line.

Green reported progress in the area of high-end technical training, including courses offered by NT, Novell, Cisco, and Knowledge Net. Technical web-based training is complimented by conference call capability and is very effective, he said. Agencies benefit from a reduction in out-of-state travel expenses. **Current ITTP Goals are:**

- **Increased investigation into the field office market**
- **Investigating alternative methods of delivery**
- **Continuing to monitor face-to-face delivery**
- **Continuing to promote professional-technical testing to ensure a high level of competency among state employees**

DISCUSSION ON TRAINING

Ken Harward inquired if the training is available to local governments, and Green said it is designed for state employees only, but he would be open to discussions of other options. Rich asked about communication channels between ITTP and agencies, and expressed an interest in discussing training options with Green.

Bunderson brought up the topic of teacher computer literacy. Green reported that ITTP is holding a training session this summer for 170 teachers in Microsoft NT. When asked if he felt the level of training is adequate, Green said he believes that more teacher training needs to be done. **Rich Mincer**, Department of Education designate, noted that many school districts are not utilizing the free one-year training offered with the purchase of a Micron PC. He said the greatest need is for teacher incentive.

Workforce development and teacher training issues will need to remain on the agenda for further discussion, said Ahrens. She suggested increased marketing of available training to agency heads. The aggregating of state training needs is the right answer, she said.

E-GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Browne gave an update on E-Government Meetings being conducted by the ITRMC Project Team. On May, 25, 2000, an **Information Technology Workshop** was held for IT Managers, Fiscal Officers, and DFM and LSO staff. The event was attended by 110 state personnel who participated in discussions on E-Government. The Project Team received excellent input from participants, said Browne. A second event is being planned for **September 7, 2000**. The **Idaho E-Government Boot**

Camp for Policy Makers will be held from 8-5 on the Grove, in Boise. The meeting is geared toward agency directors, legislators, college and university presidents, mayors, county commissioners and other leaders. It is designed as a training session for policy makers on what our state needs to be doing to prepare for the implementation of E-Government, said Browne. The Boot Camp will feature national level speakers for high-level discussions on what needs to be done, added Ahrens. Speakers and agendas are currently being finalized.

GIS AND IT PLANNING POLICY #1997-02

Browne reported to Ahrens that after careful consideration, the Project Team has concluded that GIS, which has been considered an IT process is already covered by ITRMC Policy on IT Planning (#97-02) and no action is required by the Council. The Project Team plans to meet with agencies over the next few months to streamline the agency reporting process for GIS planning and the results will complement the 2001 Statewide IT Plan, said Browne.

REVIEW OF STATEWIDE IT PLAN

Ahrens reminded the Council of the need for updating the **Statewide IT Plan**. The current document, written in 1998, was based on input received from the *Tele Com '92* and *Info Tech '96* meetings, and the time may be appropriate for a similar gathering such as a "Bandwidth 2000," she said.

A review of the 1998 IT Plan was conducted by Browne. The purpose of the plan, as stated in the document, is **"to formally begin enterprise-wide, strategic IT Planning efforts to more effectively utilize existing and future IT resources for Idaho State Government."**

In reviewing the *Executive Summary*, Browne pointed out key items as being the *"intelligent use of telecommunications and information technology"* and the *"empowerment of state employees with the tools to perform their job anywhere and anytime."* Employees are empowered through training processes, he said.

In summarizing *Desktop Computing* progress, Browne said TCIP has been adopted as the Internet Transport Protocol, with a wide-area-network (WAN) in place at the Department of Administration. A skilled technical staff is an important key, he added. The legislature has provided ITRMC with \$250,000 in spending annually, and with additional funding by the Department of Labor, the state now provides technical training assistance to employees. Training capabilities have focused more on technical training, than desktop training, he added.

Another important part of the IT Plan, is the issue of *"central coordination and local control,"* said Browne. "Centrally we have to build a coordinated infrastructure, but agencies must be responsible for their applications."

One of the foundations of ITRMC is a *"content independent infrastructure and a content dependent application,"* said Browne. He explained an infrastructure, with its delivery mechanisms over wide area networks and local area networks as being "content independent," which means it can be centrally coordinated and managed. However, vehicle registrations, public safety accounting, and those kind of things are "content dependent" applications and have to be the responsibility of the specific agency, he emphasized. The shared processes become centrally coordinated, and agencies retain control over their own applications.

In reference to the Establishing Standards portion of the document, Browne said the state is continuing to better utilize human resources and financial resources.

In the Business Plan section, Browne emphasized a key requirement is that every agency plan must support the Statewide IT Plan. Every agency will develop a plan to support its individual mission, and consequentially all agency plans should fit within the guidelines of the statewide business plan. .

Statewide IT Philosophy currently says that "Idaho residents expect and are entitled to consistent seamless government services." Idaho citizen expectations are listed in the document as: "government will preserve a safe, healthy, and vibrant place to live, prosper and raise families; one that honors and protects basic freedoms as outlined in our nation's Constitution and Bill of Rights."

The Ideal Work Environment statement lists a "robust, comprehensive set of information technology tools available in every work environment in the state." ITRMC has taken steps to coordinate IT so that the tools are uniform and consistent across the state agencies, no matter the location, he noted. "We are going to use Novel, and Microsoft, with Microsoft Desktop Applications."

In the last portion of the document, Ideal IT Environment, it says "the breadth and scope of what information an individual worker does is a condition of their specific job responsibility, not a condition of the agency." This means all the tools are available to anyone, even if they move to a different agency to work, Browne explained.

The process spelled out in the 1998 Statewide IT Plan included four phases of development, followed by implementation steps, as listed below:

<u>Phase 1</u> (98-99) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• review agency budgets• create task force of agency Information Systems professionals	<u>Phase 2</u> (98-99) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• establish models for centralized operation of IT infrastructure statewide, agency application• establish and maintain procurement contracts
<u>Phase 3</u> (00-01) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• data capture• data storage• data access	<u>Phase 4</u> (01-05) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• develop the state's access to information into a full-service Intranet• move away from proprietary systems and embrace open systems standards

Browne summarized progress that has been made in each area outlined above. As listed in **Phase 1**, agency budgets are now reviewed. In conjunction with DFM, the Project Team conducts reviews of any agency with a decision unit on information technology, to assure that projects are inside the parameters established by ITRMC. The Project Team also meets regularly with a small group IT Managers from the Departments of Labor, Tax, Water Resources, Transportation, Health and Welfare, the Division of Human Resources, and higher education, (in addition to several others-name). The meetings are informal discussions of IT issues facing the state. Additionally, the Project Team is also involved with ISEC (Information Systems Executive Committee), a group of IT professionals, which meets quarterly.

One item that has not been completed is the preparation of a *Consolidated IT Budget*, with approximately 135 Million currently being spent on information technology, said Browne. It is important for the state to begin to identify where the IT costs are located, Ahrens noted. The idea of presenting the plan is to look at the whole plan and take out what is not relevant today and make the necessary revisions, said Ahrens. The document needs to be re-written on a much broader scope, added Browne.

In terms of **Phase 2**, *Central Operation of the Infrastructure*, Browne listed examples of current progress:

- Wide Area Network established at the Dept. of Administration
- Formation of Security Task Force
- Procurement contracts established
- Microsoft and Oracle Master Licensing Agreements established
- Document Management contract established
- Netscape Contract in place
- Portal Provider Services Contract Signed
- Cellular Phone Services Contract in place
- ESRI-GIS Software Contract for higher education established
- IT professionals reviewing Naming Architecture issues/Windows 2000

On **Phase 3**, relating to *data capture, storage and access*, Browne said, the entire model needs to be changed, so that data is being provide to the customer. With the portal and the ability to do licensing, the on-line processes will allow customers to enter their own data. **The key then, is storage of the data, so that it is accessible by anyone who has the right and need to have access to it**, said Browne. With the Document Management Contract in place, the contractors are established, and fiscal officers are currently going through the budget cyles. Developing a "*uniform database management scheme*" will take some time, but the state has not deal with the issue, except to making sure that databases are standard and not proprietary, he said.

In reviewing **Phase 4**, a "*full service Intranet*," the key is the existence of **five core IT standards: directory, e-mail, file, print, and network manager**. **Browne described the Intranet at the Department of Administration as "in the infancy stage."** Progress is being made in terms of standards based services, with the Department of Labor and consortium of agency IT Managers developing naming architecture standards, he noted. Network management is a cooperative effort between the Department of Administration and state agencies, which are now using a common tool (the Cicso Router). The transition process is expected to take 5 to 8 years, said Browne.

In concluding his report, Browne reported the Project Team recommends that: **a broad-based Task Force, with scope similar to that of TeleCom '92 and Info Tech '96, be assembled to develop recommendations for ITRMC to provide state leadership that can be the basis for the State's 2000 Information Technology Plan.**

DISCUSSION OF STATEWIDE IT PLANNING

Peay remarked that since TeleCom '92 and Info Tech '96, the difference is in the existence of ITRMC and he said it seems as though the Project Team is proposing to start from scratch, rather than modifying the current document. Browne said he is proposing that the process begin with a review of what has been accomplished from a "much broader" perspective. Peay said the appropriate thing is to

ask the Project Team to look at the document, subsequently amend it, and bring it back to ITRMC for review. Peay recommended approaching the governor with the plan to receive higher level involvement. Bunderson remarked that Idaho needs to become more visible to move to the forefront of digital states.

Williams said the charter of ITRMC encompasses a very broad perspective, which means visionary planning for the direction Idaho is headed as a digital state. Williams remarked that Idaho has a "window of opportunity" of between 18 months to two years, where **"we need to decide where we are going as a digital state in order to compete from an economic development standpoint."** He referred the Council to 11 areas listed in the State's Blueprint for Electronic Commerce, a document which outlines what states should be doing in specific areas. Idaho already has the infrastructure in place to "leap ahead" of other states, if we have a plan for electronic government, said Williams. He recommended setting priorities, so that decisions could be made on a high level.

"This new economy is hugh, and moving very rapidly, and some states will be winners and some will be losers." Idaho has done well on surveys, noted Williams. Forbes Magazine last month reported that Idaho is "fifth best" of all metropolitan areas in the country for "high tech culture." Governing Magazine rated Boise 24th out of the 50 best metropolitan areas for technology. "The opportunity that we have now as a state to leap ahead and become a leader and create the highest paying jobs for our children and grandchildren is profound. We've got a little window and if we don't take it, there's going to be a lot of questions asked in a few years. **We need more than just a technology plan, we need an overall vision of how to become one of the five best digital states,**" Williams emphasized.

Nancy Szofran, State Board of Education designate, said modifying the current plan could limit opportunities for innovation. Broader based discussion may take more time, but will be valuable, she said.

Browne said, as a state, "we should not allow technology to determine where we are going. **We have to determine where we are going and use the technology to get there.**" In the planning process, Browne said, "there is a need to step back and look at how can we use technology to specifically achieve the high level goals established by the state leadership." He referred the Council to the ITRMC Strategic Plan, Goal #3, *"to promote the development and diversification of Idaho's economy through the use of information technology."* Council Statute (HB661-6757-45C) states that ITRMC should *"encourage and promote the development and growth of information technology in accordance with sound business principles."* Browne suggested that the two items may provide enough direction for the Council. He offered to work with agencies in reviewing the existing plan, but indicated there is **a need for input from a higher level** to develop the vision portion of the IT Plan.

Williams recommended the creation of smaller work groups, with tight guidelines, so that a document could potentially be ready in the fall, for legislators to review at the September Boot Camp.

Rep. Bert Marley inquired about the size of the Task Force, and Bumsted replied that it would most likely range from 12 to 15, to include the major agencies. Marley said he believes the "real problem is not the assessment, but where do we go next." He suggested creating smaller work groups, which could define priorities and come back to ITRMC where the information could be incorporated into a master plan.

Peay suggested Browne come up with a project plan, outlining the purpose of the group, who is involved, target a timeframe, and to spell-out what the group plans to do. Bunderson recommended that the Dept. of Administration do the labor on the document and prepare it for a September review.

Williams suggested the Project Team develop a plan or outline for plans to move forward over the next two weeks, and after receiving feedback from ITRMC, have a document for review in September, and finalized by the end of the year. He recommended utilizing information from other states in the process.

ACTION ITEM

Keith Bumsted, acting Chairman in the absence of Ahrens, restated the Project Team recommendation for a State IT Plan Task Force to assess progress, establish broad-based goals, with the inclusion of state leadership and economic development factors, for preparation in the next few months. He called for a motion for the creation of a task force.

Eric Beck made a motion and Williams seconded that ITRMC adopt the Project Team recommendation that a broad-based Task Force be assembled, with Pam Ahrens as Chair, and a target date of completion by the September 7, 2000 Boot Camp. Bunderson recommended that the Project Team do the base evaluation of the scope and responsibility of the Task Force and be prepared in the next few weeks to report to ITRMC with recommendations on how the Task Force should be structured, including goals and objectives. ITRMC can reconvene at the call of Chairman Ahrens for final implementation decisions, he said.

Beck moved that Bunderson's ideas be incorporated into the motion, and Bunderson seconded. Acting Chairman Bumsted called for a vote and the eight voting members present voted in favor. Ahrens approval at a later time completed the quorum of nine and the motion passed unanimously.

SECURITY TASK FORCE

Jeff Rompala reported progress to Council on the establishment of a **Security Task Force**, as recommended at the May 3, 2000 ITRMC meeting. Rompala said several meetings have taken place, with discussions on how the State of Idaho will develop an infrastructure business plan for conducting business over the Internet.

Rompala reported that a business ***Security Plan Outline*** has been developed for transmission and reception of information via the Internet. The security planning process will involve identifying the needs of large and small agencies for conducting business. A potential obstacle to a successful security plan would be the absence of key personnel, through vacations, out-of-town meetings, or departures. A security plan will fail if it is not maintained across the statewide enterprise, he said.

The next step in the process will include meeting with the DITCS to obtain an agreement on whether the proposed security architecture can work. Following a consensus, the Security Task Force will call together agencies to discuss and fine tune the plan, with final evaluation to be given by ITRMC. A finalized plan is expected to be reviewed by ITRMC by September 15, 2000 and the start of the implementation process for the Statewide Security Plan is estimated to begin in **October, 2000.**

PROJECT TEAM STATUS REPORTS

GIS Update

Liza Fox, Statewide GIS Coordinator, reviewed recent GIS activities. Efforts are continuing toward the development of a statewide GIS infrastructure, with the goal of assuring the efficient and consistent application of GIS technology across the state. GIS information is a vital resource that can be used to achieve economic development, said Fox. The current lack of a comprehensive information infrastructure puts our state at a competitive disadvantage, she said.

The major emphasis of GIS activities has been on **building partnerships** between state agencies, local government, private sector, public utilities, tribal and federal governments, and developing a seamless GIS database, said Fox.

In a meeting of the **Idaho Geographic Information Advisory Committee (IGIAC)**, on June 15, 2000, the group adopted meeting guidelines, discussed changing its name, and established **three goals**:

- To minimize duplication of geographic information data collection, distribution and display
- To determine geographic information priorities for state agencies
- To facilitate the realization of those geographic information priorities

Discussions centered around the reorganization of the structure of GIS planning, which includes changing the role of the state group. Plans are for an **Idaho Geospatial Technology Committee** to be formed as the executive board for GIS enterprise-wide coordination, and reporting to ITRMC. The GTC will consist of one representative of each of the following entities: **city, county, state, federal, tribal, public utility, higher education, and private enterprise.**

Also being developed is a **Local Government Coalition**, made up of city and county representatives. The group will focus on specific cadastral (land ownership) issues between federal, state, local and private entities, for the purpose of:

- promoting the concept of a common cadastral survey data layer across political boundaries
- adopting ground transportation standards across agencies and governments
- supporting the utilization of shared, open standards for the State of Idaho

Additionally, Fox discussed the *Yellowstone to Yukon Initiative*, which is a USGS federal and Canadian government grant for the development of data sets for use by all state, federal, tribal, and local governments. The grant is an excellent opportunity to share resources and expertise with our nearby states and Canada to create trans-boundary data sets, Fox said. Current satellite data will be made available to our state as a result of the grant.

Statewide Contracts

Mark Little, Division of Purchasing, reported on the progress of statewide contracts. Microcomputer contracts with Compaq, Dell, and Gateway have been signed and established, he said. Addendum's with IBM and CompUSA are near completion. The contract with Micron Government Computer Systems will be amended and extended until 9/02/2002. A bid for Hewlett Packard Computer units

will be issued soon, with bid opening scheduled late in July, 2000, and contract expected by August, 2000.

Access Idaho

Scott Somerhalder, General Manager of IIC (Idaho Information Consortium) gave a report on Access Idaho Activities. IIC is the State of Idaho contractor for portal services. Since the official rollout of the new State of Idaho Home Page on May 3, 2000, Somerhalder reported "a very positive response." The first free on-line application is a **Business Record Search**, available through the Secretary of State's website. Business Certificates of Authenticity will be available on-line by the end of June, 2000.

Agency application development is "moving quickly ahead" with many applications expected to be up and running by the end of the year. Applications are being developed at **13 agencies** for various types of on-line permitting and licensing. Additionally, IIC is assisting in web page development for several state agencies. In closing, he noted that IIC is pleased with the impact of Access Idaho, and noted that Access Idaho has been submitted for an MIT Citizen's Award, in addition to awards given by NASIRE (National Association of State Information Resource Executives) and Government Technology Magazine.

Project Team Presentations

Browne reported that the Project Team has been making presentations on the IDANET and Access Idaho Initiatives and other ITRMC issues at local communities across the state. Presentations were made at the Annual Association of Idaho Cities meeting in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and an Idaho Rural Partnership Conference in Arco, Idaho. The Project Team is planning to make presentations at the cities and counties in the coming months to increase awareness of the issues and to receive citizen input.

NEW BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other new business to come before the Council, designated Chairman Keith Bumsted thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Bresnahan, ITRMC Project Team